

## Courageous Book Review

Courageous starts off and ends great, though there is much confusion in the beginning and middle. The book starts off with a carjacking in which a man's truck is stolen only to find out his toddler son was in the backseat. He runs the truck down and holds on to the door and forces the truck into an accident where he recovers his son. The man turns out to be a transfer police officer moving back home and has an awkward way of introducing himself to his fellow officers. From there the book starts to get a bit confusing by telling the story of six different characters. Eventually the characters are all drawn together into the main story.

One of the characters is of a young man who does not know where he belongs; his parents are dead and he is being raised by his grandmother. He is African American and lives in a suburb of Atlanta his only companions are gang members who recruit him. The gang leader, as it turns out, is the same man who tried to steal the new police officers truck. The police officer who owns the truck has a daughter who wants to date the young man who is new to the gang.

Another one of the characters is of a cop who has two children, a little girl nine and a young man sixteen. The man has a great relationship with his daughter but not his oldest son. One day the man is taking his friend, another police officer, to meet his son. While they are stopped at a bank the daughter hears a song on the radio and begs her father to dance, though he says he is dancing with her in his heart. A week later the daughter is killed by a drunk driver, who turns out to be on drugs. The man got the drugs from the father's friend, a police officer, that day they stopped at the bank.

This leads the four police officers, who are all fathers, to create a pact and swear by it in church to be better fathers. The men struggle with getting to know their children at first but

eventually, through faith in God, they become much better fathers. This is a very Christian oriented book that regardless of faith every father should read. This book has forever changed my life in a positive way; I no longer take the small things for granted when it comes to my children. I am not one to read a book that everyone is bragging about however, I decided to read this one and it is one of the best books I have ever read. There is also a movie out about this book that if one does not wish to read can watch, as the book was derived from the movie, usually the other way around. There is probably not one father, who actually loves their children, will not be touched and cry during this book or movie. This book will have a lasting impact on those who read it, I strongly recommend that all fathers read this book regardless of their faith.